

Date Mailed
June 5, 2003

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of Northern States Power Company, Wisconsin,
for a Certificate of Authority to Construct Facilities and to
Provide Natural Gas Service in the Town of Erin Prairie,
St. Croix County, Wisconsin

4220-CG-135

NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION

THIS IS AN INVESTIGATION to consider the April 10, 2003, application of Northern States Power Company, Wisconsin, (NSPW) for authority under Wis. Stat. § 196.49 and Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 133.03 to construct natural gas distribution facilities and provide natural gas service in the town of Erin Prairie, St. Croix County, Wisconsin.

NSPW is a public utility, as defined in Wis. Stat. § 196.01(5)(a), engaged in the business of distributing and selling natural gas in areas throughout Wisconsin.

NSPW proposes to install approximately 4 miles of 4-inch plastic gas main and approximately 9 miles of 2-inch plastic gas main. Installation of the proposed gas main would allow NSPW to provide natural gas service to an estimated 451 residential and 4 commercial customers in the five year period following construction. The proposed 4-inch gas main would be located along the border between the towns of Erin Prairie and Stanton. NSPW is already authorized to provide natural gas service in the town of Stanton. A large new housing development in the town of Stanton is located along the route of the proposed 4-inch gas main and NSPW intends to serve this housing development as part of its proposed project. NSPW's customer estimates include new customers in both the town of Erin Prairie and the adjoining town of Stanton. NSPW also states that the proposed project would reinforce the existing gas distribution system located in the nearby city of New Richmond. NSPW estimates the total project cost to be \$577,895.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Commission considers it necessary, in order to carry out its duties, to investigate all books, accounts, practices, and activities of the applicant. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such an investigation will be assessed against and collected from the applicant in accordance with the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 196.85 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 5.

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This is a Type III action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(3). No unusual circumstances have come to the attention of the Commission which indicate that significant environmental consequences are likely. Neither an environmental impact statement under Wis. Stat. § 1.11 nor an environmental assessment is required.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the docket coordinator listed below.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to docket coordinator Dagmar Vanek at (608) 267-7866.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

By the Commission:

Lynda L. Dorr
Secretary to the Commission

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